



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

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24 February 2023

File ref: FOI2023/00100

[REDACTED]

Sent by email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request: FOI2023/00100

Thank you for your email of 8 February 2023 requesting information about the Confucius Institute for Scotland.

The University of Edinburgh is a global university, rooted in Scotland. We are internationally recognised for our research, development and innovation and we have provided world-class teaching to our students for more than 430 years. We are the largest university in Scotland and in 2021/22 our annual revenue was £1.3 billion, of which £331 million was research income. We have just under 50,000 students and over 15,000 staff. We are a founding member of the UK's Russell Group of leading research universities and a member of the League of European Research Universities.

Confucius Institute for Scotland

The [Confucius Institute for Scotland](#) in the University of Edinburgh is a national centre to promote educational and cultural ties between Scotland and China. It was founded in 2006 in partnership with Hanban (part of the Ministry of Education) and Fudan University. In June 2020, the Chinese International Education Foundation was set up as an independent organisation to replace Hanban in managing the development of the Confucius Institute network.

Until June 2020, the Confucius Institute was jointly funded by Hanban, the Office of Chinese Language Council International, and the University of Edinburgh. It is now funded by the Chinese International Education Foundation, the Office of Chinese Language Council International, and the University of Edinburgh. The Confucius Institute for Scotland in the University of Edinburgh is authorised by The Chinese International Education Foundation and supported by The Centre for Language Education and Cooperation.

PRC staff at the Confucius Institute

You asked whether staff from the People's Republic of China (PRC) at the Confucius Institute for Scotland have to abide by Chinese law on campus. You also asked if the University has entered into agreements that demand this.

Staff from the PRC at the University's Confucius Institute for Scotland do not have to abide by Chinese law on campus. The University does not place a contractual obligation on staff to do so.

Right to review

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you may ask the University to conduct a review of this decision by contacting the University's Records Management Section in writing (e.g. by letter or email) or in some other recorded form (e.g. audio or video tape). You should describe the original request, explain your grounds for dissatisfaction, and include an address for correspondence. You have 40 working days from receipt of this letter to submit a review request. The contact details for the Records Management Section are at the top of this letter. When the review process has been completed, if you are still dissatisfied, you may use the [Scottish Information Commissioner's guidance on making an appeal](#) to make an appeal to the Commissioner. If you do not have access to the Internet, please let me know and I will provide a copy of the relevant web pages.

Privacy notice for information request applicants

[The University of Edinburgh's request privacy notice](#), which describes how we use the information you have supplied about yourself and your request, is published on the University website.

Yours sincerely



Records Management Section

If you require this letter in an alternative format, such as large print or a coloured background, please contact the Records Management Section on 0131 651 4099 or email recordsmanagement@ed.ac.uk